

OFFICE OF CENTRAL REFERENCE

22 September 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Central Reference

SUBJECT: Improvement of BR Activities on Communist China

REFERENCE: AAD/CR Memorandum to O/DDI, 18 June 1965

1. This Division has for many months recorded the fact that it has been in need of additional support in its China area. The China staff has been augmented from within the Division by cutting back on areas that--at this time--seem of less strategic significance than others. A case in point: Germany.

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25X6 b) process the current "take" of material on Communist China and thus avoid ever-increasing backlogs (mainly FBIS and [REDACTED] card material--about 50,000 of the latter received each year);

c) suitably maintain files on political type organizations similar to those now maintained on scientific organizations (ever-increasing requests for this type of information remain either partially answered or even unanswered);

d) devote sufficient time to maintenance of the scientific organization files (of vital importance in following ChiCom scientific activities but which have become increasingly out-dated during the past two years);

e) up-date and re-issue our publication Directory of Leading Chinese Communist Officials which was last issued in 1963 and for which we have received constant requests; and 25X6

f) issue supplements to the Communist China [REDACTED] Handbook (no supplements have been issued since publication of the basic increment in May 1964, since time has permitted the section to prepare--and deposit in the "bank"--only 15 reports on ChiCom personalities).\*

5. It is obvious that more analysts are needed in the Section to assure adequate coverage of ChiCom personalities. However, even the addition of three Intelligence Assistants (IA's) would be of considerable advantage in that they could relieve the analysts of some of the more routine (but necessary) duties and free the analysts to give greater attention to key ChiCom personalities, analyze the information now being backlogged and produce more finished intelligence. In short, the analysts would be able to devote more time to satisfying the ever-growing needs of the Community for Communist China [REDACTED] analysis. 25X6

6. The IA's would be used as follows:

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The China Section is currently divided into two units: scientific personalities and political personalities. The scientific unit now has one I. A. who is responsible for compiling new dossiers and up-dating existing ones. However, because of the growing number of open-source materials being obtained on Communist China and the processing time required to put this information under EAM control, it is impossible for one individual to do the job. One additional I. A. could assist in the above operation and also be responsible for the maintenance of the Scientific Organization File. This file, at one time, was a valuable asset in answering requests on scientific organizations. Lack of personnel during the past year has prevented keeping this file current. A full-time I. A. under the supervision of the scientific analyst hopefully would be able to bring the file up-to-date. With greater and more current coverage, the section could produce a number of useful reference aids on the Chinese Communist scientific community.

The political analyst presently has one I. A. assisting him who codes and processes appearances of 225 key Chinese Communist political leaders. In addition, he answers routine name checks and in the future could process publications such as FDD summaries and open-source materials such as the Survey of China Mainland Press. One of the new I. A.'s could code all Chinese travel. This is an area of increasing importance, especially for operational purposes. We currently receive a large amount of travel information from the DDP, so much so, that it is impossible to maintain adequate control without having someone working full time on it. A second new I. A. could do all the processing into the political category file. This is the section's most useful working file and is the basis for a number of reference aids. All items carried in such sources as the FBIS, Provincial Radio Broadcast Survey, biographic cards [REDACTED] and numerous other documents have to be processed into this file. Presently analysts have to preform this duty. With proper supervision, this could be done by an I. A. and perhaps allow the section to process in greater depth. With this file on a current basis, reference aids such as the Directory of Leading Chinese Communist Officials could be produced on an annual schedule.

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Chief, Biographic Register